TRAFFIC ENGINEERING

A News Letter

Published by the

INSTITUTE OF TRAFFIC ENGINEERS

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APRIL & MAY
1937

CHICAGO MEETING

On May 13th the Institute held a midwest regional meeting in conjunction with the Midwest Safety Conference at the Hotel Sherman. Colonel William Chevalier was the principal speaker at the Institute luncheon. Over one hundred attended. Institute members who spoke on the afternoon program were

E. J. McIlraith
Geo. Barton
Walter Klapproth
Howard Ilgner
Ed O'Meara
Martin Bruening

The Board of Direction held a special summer meeting during the regional conference and considered a number of important items including many applications for membership. Preliminary reports of many committees were heard. Some of the reports were submitted personally by the Chairmen attending the regional conference.

FELLOWSHIPS AT HARVARD

Fifteen Fellowships of $1400 each will be available at the Harvard Bureau for Street Traffic Research this coming fall. Maxwell Halsey (Member), Asst. Director of the Harvard Bureau, has requested the cooperation of the Institute members in the choice of next year's holders of these fellowships. This request by Mr. Halsey opens the way for the Institute and its members to again demonstrate its interests in and importance to the traffic engineering profession.

NEW MEMBERS AND TRANSFER

The Board acted favorably upon the following applications and granted the grade as indicated.

NAME & ADDRESS	GRADE
Jay Anthony Czizek, Jr., 5767 Shafter Avenue, Oakland, Calif.	Associate
Ralph A. Hafner, Traffic Draftsman, City Hall, Philadelphia, Pa.	Associate
Frank Chas. Jamin, Supervising Engineer, Traffic Planning Bureau, 138 W. 30th St., New York, N. Y.	Associate
Wm. F. Milner, Asst. Traffic Engineer, State Highway Commission of Indiana, State House Annex, Indianapolis, Indiana.	Associate
Frederick C. Tarbox, #31 - 41 Wendell St., Cambridge, Mass.	Junior
Tarley T. Wiley, Junior Engineer, Bureau of Maintenance, Div. of Highways, Springfield, Ill.	Associate
Prof. C. C. Wiley, 103 Engineering Hall, University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill.	Member
Thos. E. Willier, 61 Perkins Hall, Cambridge, Mass.	Associate

	Transferred From	Board Action
Thos. J. Seburn, City Traffic Engineer, City Hall, Kansas City, Mo.	Associate	Member

NEW YORK MEETING

The Institute dinner and meeting held on April 13, Hotel Astor, New York City, in conjunction with the Eighth Annual Greater New York Safety Convention was a complete success. One hundred members and friends were present. Members from as far west as Chicago attended. Mr. Grant Mickle (Associate), gave an excellent illustrated talk on the subject of "Traffic Planning". He discussed the Detroit and Michigan State surveys. Your Secretary acted as toastmaster. Numerous traffic engineers of public and private organizations were present. Twenty fellows and students of the Harvard Bureau for Street Traffic Research attended. Many non-member state and local officials were present. A great variety of traffic engineering subjects were discussed during the evening.

A WORD FROM MASSACHUSETTS

The Massachusetts State Police have for the past three months been reporting traffic violations to the State Registrar of Motor Vehicles rather than obtaining court summonses. The violator then receives either a letter of warning or is called in for a hearing before the Registrar, depending upon his past record and the seriousness of the offense involved. The State Police feel that the experiment is a success since it gives them 30% more officer time on the road and minimizes the opportunity for fixing. Also, the temporary suspension or permanent loss of license seems to be a more effective deterrent to motorists than the time worn court fine.

"HIGHWAY PATROL"

The new traffic safety game "Highway Patrol" developed by the Liberty Mutual Insurance Company to promote safety education of junior high and high school students who are about to become drivers, is now being used by more than two thousand schools in sixteen states. This game should be of interest to traffic engineers because it embodies in the board design many of the traffic control features and devices commonly used to facilitate flow and reduce accidents. One high point in the game is that it instructs the novice in the proper use of the standard cloverleaf type of grade separation. This confusing product of the modern traffic era should be easily and properly negotiated by the budding young driver who has had an opportunity to play "Highway Patrol". In brief, the game is played on a board and the object is to move toy automobiles from one given point to another over various types of roadways and through controlled and uncontrolled intersections to arrive at the destination in the shortest time. The driving rules and regulations and familiar driving situations which arise in the game are similar to those encountered in every day traffic. The player who avoids accidents and traffic violations encounters the least delay and should reach the destination first. Write Dwight McCracken for further details.

SPEED AND TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

H. H. Harrison (Associate), Traffic Engineer, Illinois Divisions of Highways, as Chairman of the National Safety Council's Special Committee on the Relation of Speed and Accidents has requested the Institute members for their co-operation. Our Research Committee headed by W. Sherman Smith, (Associate) is working very closely with the Council's Committee. Several cooperative research projects have been arranged. It is hoped that all the Institute members will do their part to help make this study of the Council and the Institute a valuable one.

MOTION PICTURE TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Inasmuch as there are so many members of the Institute on the Motion Picture Traffic Safety Committee a brief paragraph about the personnel and functions of the committee will be of interest to all Institute members. This committee is headed by Dr. McClintock as Chairman and Dwight McCracken as Secretary-Treasurer. Other members of the Institute which are serving on this Motion Picture Traffic Safety Committee are Melvin Bankhead, E. B. Lefferts, Burton Marsh, Maxwell Halsey, Frank Kreml, Graham Cole, Sidney Williams, E. W. James and Harold Hammond.

The purpose and functions of the committee as explained in the brochure, being distributed through organizations on a nationwide basis, is clearly stated in five points.

1. To encourage production of motion pictures with traffic safety values.
2. To secure the maximum public educational benefits from those films selected by the committee as having safety influence. This is to be accomplished by film reviews, announcements, etc., released through the established publicity channels of member organizations.
3. To stimulate the conduct of local community safety activities at a time and in a manner which will most effectively utilize the local display of the film with attaching safety propaganda to the film itself.
4. To assist producers in introducing more authentic and exemplary traffic behavior in standard entertainment motion pictures by furnishing technical information and materials upon request. A sub-committee of traffic experts has been made available to producers in Hollywood for this purpose.
5. To present a suitable trophy to the producer of the film which, in the opinion of the Committee, most effectively encourages safer use of the highways.

A suitable award will be made at the end of the contest.

HARVARD TRAFFIC ASSOCIATES FORMED

Formation of the Harvard Traffic Associates was announced April 11, following sanction by the University authorities.

Members of the new group include more than 50 present and past Fellows and graduate students who have completed training under the Harvard Bureau for Street Traffic Research. Future fellows and graduate students who complete the required courses at the Bureau will be eligible for membership in the organization.

The Harvard Traffic Associates has among its purposes to promote traffic safety; to encourage adoption of scientific methods of traffic control, regulation, enforcement and education, and to stimulate interest in traffic research.

Officers of the Harvard Traffic Associates, who also constitute the Board of Directors, are: President, Thomas E. Willier, of Jefferson City and Springfield, Missouri; Vice-President, Sergeant George H. Thompson of Medford, Mass.; and Secretary-Treasurer, Wilbur S. Smith, of Columbia, S. C. Mr. Willier and Mr. Smith are Fellows, and Mr. Thompson a graduate student, at the Bureau.

Mr. Willier is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and was formerly connected with the Missouri State Highway Department.

Sergeant Thompson is Director of the Traffic Division of the Massachusetts State Police. Mr. Smith is a member of the Institute of Traffic Engineers, and was formerly assistant state traffic engineer of South Carolina.

The Bureau for Street Traffic Research, organized in 1926 under the directorship of Dr. Miller McClintock, pioneered in the training of men in the field of traffic, and has achieved international recognition as a laboratory of research in street and highway transport problems.

MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE

The Membership Certificate has now been printed and will be mailed to the members as soon as the names and grades of each member can be entered on the certificates. We feel sure that the members will be pleased with this certificate. It is in a convenient size (10x12 inches) for easy and economical framing.

"THE DEVIL IS DRIVING"

This is the name of a new full length motion picture which is being released by Columbia Pictures, Inc. sometime the middle of June for regular movie house showings. The story is based upon the traffic problem in a community. Richard Dix plays the lead as a brillant young attorney. Politics, drunken driving, dramatic court scenes, violator schools and effective presentations of accident facts are a few of the highlights shown in this picture. Those attending the preview here in New York agreed it probably is the best picture that has appeared on the subject of traffic. It has been accepted for consideration by the Motion Picture Traffic Safety Committee as one of the contestants for the award to be made by this committee late this fall. You will hear more about this picture within several weeks.

A WORD TO NEW MEMBERS

We are pleased to have you with us. We feel sure your membership in the Institute will be of mutual benefit to the traffic engineering profession and yourselves. We hope you will take an active part in the work and activities of the Institute. It is your organization. It depends upon the time and effort contributed by the individual members for all that is accomplished. If you wish to serve on any committee let the President or Secretary know. If you have any items for the News Letter send them to the Secretary.